GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2422
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000
OUTSTANDING TELEPHONE BILLS
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) The total arrears of outstanding telephone bills in the country as on March31, 2000;

(b) whether the Government propose to confer the powers of Revenue officers on certain DoT officers to secure payment of outstanding amounts from habitual defaulters as arrears of land Revenue; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) The total cumulative outstandings on 31.3.2000 were Rs.3271 crores, out of which Rs.1111 crores are the outstandings of bills raised in the last three months.

(b) & (c) No, Sir. While departmental officers do not have the power of Revenue Authorities of the State, attempt is made, wherever possible, to seek their assistance in enforcing recovery.